

## Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 IO-10 ARAE-00 OIC-02 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-05 EB-07 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SP-02 L-02 /067 W

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O 301445Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7665

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT OF SPAIN 0965

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECLA, PFOR, TD, US

SUBJ: U.S. DELEGATION TO ECLA BIENNIAL SESSION

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS TO PRESIDENT FORD WELCOMING U.S. DELEGATION TO FORTHCOMING SIXTEENTH SESSION OF ECLA TO BE HELD MAY 6- 15 IN PORT OF SPAIN. LETTER, APPARENTLY SENT TO ALL HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS PARTICIPATING IN ECLA, STATE THAT "REPRESENTATION AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL WILL UNDOUBTEDLY CONTRIBUTE TO SUCCESS OF THE CONFERENCE," DR. WILLIAMS SAYS THAT EFFORTS TO HANDLE ISSUES SUCH AS A "NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER", MID-TERM APPRAISAL OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND MATTERS RELATED TO THE NEXT SPECIAL SESSION OF UNGA WILL DEPEND TO A LARGE EXTENT ON THE LEVEL OF AUTHORITY OF THE HEADS OF DELEGATION. LETTER HAS BEEN POUCHED TO ARA/CAR FOR TRANSMITTAL TO WHITE HOUSE.

2. ECLA OPENED A REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE CARIBBEAN IN PORT OF SPAIN SOME YEARS AGO AS A RESULT OF PER-  
SISTENT PRODDING BY DR. WILLIAMS, AND TRINIDAD'S OFFER TO HOST THIS ECLA MEETING IS DELIVERATE ATTEMPT TO  
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DRAW THE CARIBBEAN REGION TO THE ATTENTION OF ECLA

MEMBERS. DR. WILLIAMS WILL PERSONALLY HEAD TRINIDADIAN DELEGATION, AND HE HAS STAKED MUCH OF HIS PERSONAL PRESTIGE ON A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE.

3. LEVEL OF ATTENDANCE AT ECLA SESSIONS IS LIKELY TO BE AN IMPORTANT ISSUE IN TRINIDAD, SINCE SOME LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS REPORTEDLY ARE MIFFED AT PM'S RECENT REMARKS ABOUT "RECOLONIZATION OF THE CARIBBEAN", AND MAY DELIBERATELY SEND LOW-LEVEL DELEGATIONS TO ECLA. EMBASSY HAS NOT LEARNED MUCH ABOUT COMPOSITION OF OTHER NATIONS' DELEGATIONS, BUT UNDERSTANDS THAT FRANCE IS SENDING A HIGH-LEVEL ONE. IN VIEW OF FACT THAT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY HEADED U.S. DELEGATION TO LAST BIENNIAL SESSION IN QUITO, LEVEL OF U.S. DELEGATION TO THIS SESSION WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE UNFAVORABLY COMPARED WITH QUITO MEETING, BUT THIS NEED NOT IMPAIR MATTERS IF U.S. DELEGATION IS HEADED BY AN APPROPRIATELY HIGH-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVE.

4. I HAD ALREADY INFORMALLY TOLD PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS THAT WE EXPECTED U.S. DELEGATION TO BE HEADED BY AMBASSADOR FERGUSON, AND ALTHOUGH HE WAS DISSAPPOINTED THAT U.S. REPRESENTATIVE WOULD NOT BE AT ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEVEL, HE DID NOT OBJECT. I UNDERSTAND NOW THAT AMBASSADOR FERGUSON WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND ECLA MEETING, QAND I URGE THAT EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO SELECT A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE AT LEAST AS SENIOR AS AMBASSADOR FERGUSON. TO SEND ANYONE OF LESSER RANK WOULD NOT BE FAVORABLY INTERPRETED BY THE PM AND COULD BE CONSIDERED A DELIBERATE INSULT.

MILLER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, MEETINGS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Film Number:** D750151-0938  
**From:** PORT OF SPAIN  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PORO, TD, US, ECLA, (FORD, GERALD R), (WILLIAMS, ERIC EUSTACE)  
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**Type:** TE  
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